



MELKSHAM COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP Report September 2018

The most active element of the Melksham Community Area Partnership is the Community Safety Group which meets monthly in the Town Hall, the meeting room kindly provided cost free by Melksham Town Council.

Funded thanks to grants by Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council as well as direct support from Atworth Parish Council, the Community Safety Group is involved with the following on-going initiatives:

- a. Promoting, encouraging and supporting a Safer Melksham through establishing **Dementia Friendly** status for the Melksham area.
- b. Supporting and managing the **Neighbourhood Watch** scheme and encouraging other areas to take it up.
- c. The group is involved in the roll-out of a **CCTV system** in Melksham Town.
- d. The establishment and roll-out of a **Safe Places** scheme in Melksham which is being recognised across Wiltshire as a great example of how this can be achieved.
- e. The group acts as the focal point for **Community Speedwatch** groups and activities across the Community Area
- f. Working together with Selwood Housing and others to encourage the take-up of **Smartwater** forensic solutions amongst the more vulnerable in the community
- g. Police Neighbourhood Tasking Group meets every three months as part of the Community Safety Group and local representatives who sit on these groups agree with the local police teams priorities for their areas for the next quarter and review the priorities from the last quarter.

The Partnership was unfortunately faced with the retirement of stalwart member **Sue Stoker** in July 2018. An award-winning volunteer, Sue was responsible for getting the Melksham Neighbourhood Watch scheme recognised across the county as an exceptional example. We are pleased to announce that her replacement is Mr. **Chris Holden**, who has a great amount of local knowledge as well as being a committee member of the Wiltshire and Swindon Neighbourhood Watch Association.

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